



December 23, 2025

Coast Guard District Northwest
915 Second Avenue, Room 3510
Seattle, WA 98174-1067
Submitted via: d13-smb-d13-bridges@uscg.mi

RE: Navigation Impact Report (NIR) comments for the Interstate Bridge Replacement
(Columbia River)

Dear Commander,

On behalf of the City of Vancouver, I am submitting this letter to affirm support for the Interstate Bridge Replacement (IBR) Program's proposed **fixed span** bridge configuration over the Columbia River with ~116 feet of vertical navigation clearance.

The Interstate Bridge Replacement (IBR) Program conducted extensive analysis and outreach to understand potential impacts to river navigation and our economy with a variety of I-5 bridge replacement configurations. This process provided ample opportunity for review and input by river users and other stakeholders. The Program has reached formal agreements with impacted users to mitigate impacts of the fixed span option and the Columbia Business Center (CBC), the landowner which hosts these users, has expressed support for the fixed span bridge.

It is critical that the bridge replacement of the I-5 bridge commence as soon as possible. I-5 is the primary freight route through the region, with approximately \$133 million in commodity value and 70,000 commuters traversing the bridge for employment daily (2019). The proposed fixed span configuration would remove the only stoplight on I-5 between Canada and Mexico. This would reduce traffic delays and help ***maintain the free flow of freight to the region's ports – the best way to support maritime commerce***. Conversely, a moveable span would perpetuate existing issues and cost significantly more to construct, operate, and maintain than the fixed span option.

For these reasons, ***there is strong regional consensus and community support for a fixed span bridge***. This option would undoubtedly result in a positive return on federal investments. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mayor Anne McEnery-Ogle
City of Vancouver

cc: info@interstatebridge.org